

STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR CLAIM CHANGES

Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 1-20 are allowed, and claims 21-36 stand rejected. In the current amendment, Applicant amends claims 21, 30, and 33-36 relative to the amendment of September 28, 2006. Support for claims 21, 30, and 33-36 in their current form is found in the specification of the issued patent at col. 3, line 57 through col. 6, line 17 et seq. and in Figures 1-8.

REMARKS

Examiner rejected claims 21-36 under 35 U.S.C 102 over US Patent 5,584,010 to Kawai. Applicant's representative conducted interviews with Examiner Eron Sorrell on April 10, 2007, and May 8, 2007, the relevant portions of which are summarized herein in accordance with MPEP §713.04. The claims, Examiner's rejections, and Kawai were discussed. During the interviews, Applicant's representative and Examiner reached agreement that Kawai does not teach "after the I/O device transfers a data unit to a system external to the computer," "after a data unit transfer between the computer system memory and a system external to the computer system," or "transferring a data unit between a memory in a computer system and a system external to the computer system," as claimed in claim 21, claim 30, and claim 34, respectively. For at least this reason, these claims, and the claims that depend from them, are patentable over Kawai.

Examiner apparently rejected claims 30-33 as allegedly indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 30 and 33 have been amended in the way suggested by Examiner. However, as Examiner examined the claims notwithstanding their alleged 112 deficiencies in the outstanding office action (Office Action, paragraph 5), these amendments do not necessitate a new search. The language of claim 21 has also been amended as suggested by Examiner over the phone during the interview. Linguistic in nature, the amendment to this claim also does not necessitate a new search. Finally, claim 34 has been amended in order to replace the term "status memory" with "memory". Claims 35-36, which depend on claim 34, have been amended accordingly.

On the basis of the above, Applicant has addressed Examiner's rejections and request the

allowance of all claims. Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to advance prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,
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